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C O I N S

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I. BACKGROUND

The origins of COINS stem from a review of the operation of the Washington area intelligence community performed in 1965 by the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. The PFIAB informed the President that community progress in applying information science and technology was unsatisfactory and stated: "Unless strong and immediate actions are undertaken in this area, there is danger that the efficiency of the production and dissemination of intelligence within the intelligence community will decline progressively, and that the already high costs involved will climb so steeply as to jeopardize rational support of the broad intelligence effort."

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In July 1967 the PFIAB reported to the President that although the community had made noteworthy strides in information handling,

the problem was not being addressed adequately on a concerted community-wide basis, and made several recommendations for a phased implementation of a community-wide information handling system. By May 1968 the COINS experiment was more clearly defined and an Evaluation Panel was to be established by the IHC to evaluate the experiment as soon after July 1969 as was practical. Due to the continuously fluctuating nature of the COINS system, that evaluation was not performed.

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